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85-1155/5

3 DEC 1025

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director For Science and Technology

FROM:

Robert M. Gates

Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT:

Secure Printing

1. I was alerted recently to the DDA's intention to propose to you an FY 88 R&D initiative to enhance the Agency's secure printing capability through the use of ink-jet technology. This proposal did not appear in the package of 48 possible R&D initiatives you have asked us to evaluate by 13 December in terms of their importance to the interests of the DI. My purpose in this memo is simply to let you know that I am interested, in principle, in the Agency making further advances in the field of secure printing.

- 2. As you are probably aware, the DI supported the DA in its earlier effort to establish our present, limited secure printing system. That support included funding for the acquisition of two advanced copying machines and providing four ceiling positions to the DA's Printing and Photography Division (P&PD) on a temporary basis. The Director of Logistics has estimated that an R&D effort into the use of ink-jet technology for a more advanced system would cost \$500,000 in FY 88 and a million dollars in both FY 89 and FY 90. I am further informed, however, that these estimates are soft because discussions between P&PD and the Office of Research and Development (ORD) are just underway.
- 3. Given this uncertainty and the fact that none of us yet know our budgets for FY 86, much less FY 88, I am not prepared to make a specific financial commitment to this initiative at this time. Nevertheless, this project is of sufficient importance to the DI for me to give favorable consideration to a proposal for joint DA/DI funding—either as a new initiative or from our base—once the fiscal situation is clarified and ORD and P&PD can come up with a more concrete estimate.

STAT

Robert M. Gates

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